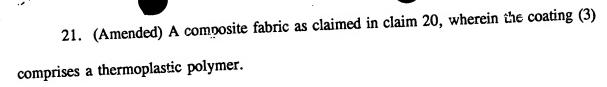
- 3. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 2, wherein the warp and west cords (1) are arranged substantially at right angles to each other.
- 4. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein interstices between adjacent cords (1) have side dimensions in the range from 0.05 mm to 12 mm.
- 5. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 4, wherein interstices between adjacent cords (1) have side dimensions in the range from 3 mm to 10 mm.
- 6. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 5, wherein interstices between adjacent cords (1) have side dimensions in the range from 5 mm to 10 mm.
- 7. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in Claim 1 and including two or more substrates of multifilament metal cord mesh.
- 8. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 7, wherein the mesh pattern of at least two substrates is not coincident.
- 9. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in Claim 8, wherein the direction of the metal cords (1) is not identical in the at least two substrates.
- 10. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 9, wherein the directions of the metal cords (1) in adjacent substrates are off-set from each other by an angle in the range from 5 degrees to 20 degrees.
- 11. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 10, wherein the angle is about 10 degrees.



12. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 8, wherein the pattern of at least one substrate is offset from that of at least another substrate.

- 13. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the multiple filaments of the metal cord are twisted together as one or more strands.
- 14. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 13, wherein a plurality of strands are twisted together to form a group.
- 15. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the filament diameter is in the range from 0.05 mm to 1.25 mm.
- 16. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 15, wherein the filament diameter is about 0.18 mm.
- 17. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cords (1) are made of steel.
- 18. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 17, wherein the cords (1) are provided with a corrosion-resistant coating.
- 19. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cords (1) are made of a corrosion-resistant alloy.
- 20. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coating (3) comprises a polymeric material.



- 22. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 20, wherein the polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF), polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) and rubber.
- 23. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 20, wherein the coating (3) is applied to the substrate by laminating.
- 24. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 20, wherein the coating (3) is applied to the substrate by liquid extrusion.
- 25. (Amended) A composite fabric as claimed in claim 20, wherein the coating (3) is applied to the substrate by dipping the substrate into molten or semi-molten coating material.
- 26. (Amended) A goods container provided with a curtain comprising a sheet of a composite fabric comprising a substrate in the form of a mesh of multifilament cord and a coating applied to the substrate so as to form a continuous sheet adhered to the substrate; means to suspend the curtain from an upper portion of said container; and means to secure the curtain in place with respect to said container.
- 27. (Amended) A goods container as claimed in claim 26, wherein the composite fabric does not extend as far as an upper edge portion of the curtain.

28. (Amended) A goods container as claimed in claim 27, wherein the upper edge portion of the curtain is provided by a sheet of conventional curtain material secured to an upper edge of the composite fabric.

The foregoing amendments place the claims of the application into better condition for examination. A marked-up version of the claims is appended hereto as pages i-iv.

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